

[illegible]

Algeria takes historic step towards multi-party democracy

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Algeria has taken an historic step towards multi-party democracy, adopting a law that allows the creation of new political parties outside the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

The Law on Political Associations, passed by the National Assembly Sunday after weeks of often stormy debate, is the cornerstone of reforms launched by President Chadli Benjedid after bloody riots shook the country last October.

A separate electoral law due for adoption later this month will allow the new parties to compete in free elections for the first time since independence from France in 1962.

"We have entered a new phase in the history of our country," Interior Minister Abu Bakr Belkaid told the assembly after the vote.

"The democracy all of us want is that which... stems from political diversity and allows all sectors of this nation to express their opinions and participate effectively in running the affairs of the country."

The assembly also adopted a law on prices that significantly reduces the role of the state in the economy, part of parallel reforms designed to liberalise economic life and dismantle 27 years of state socialism.

Algerians approved a new constitution last February that charted the country's new political and economic course after riots broke out last year over worsening economic conditions.

A final vote tally was not immediately available but adoption of the two laws, the first to implement the new constitution, suggested a major victory for reformists in the FLN-dominated assembly over old guard elements that had resisted change.

Groups ranging from far-left Trotskyists to Islamic fundamentalists have already applied for legal status and officials say the first free elections will be held at the local level late this year or early next year.

The law forbids the creation of parties based exclusively on a particular religion, language, region, sex, race or profession. It also forbids parties from advocating violence, extremism or fanaticism.

Some deputies expressed concern these clauses would rule out Islamic fundamentalist parties, Belkaid said earlier this law

would not obstruct associations "inspired by Islamic values."

But he also condemned groups that might present themselves as the sole defenders of Islam, which he called "the heritage of all Algerians," and designated by the constitution as the state religion.

The law on prices replaces a cumbersome four-tier price system with a two-tier structure that maintains state controls on essential or strategic commodities and allows others to be determined by the market.

The result will be to expand the role of the market in an economy long dominated by the public sector but in which state industries have been granted increasing autonomy.

In a series of referendums since November, Algeria's 13 million voters repeatedly have backed sweeping political reforms proposed by Benjedid, elected to a third five-year term in December.

Algerian newspapers said 40 groups intended to form parties to challenge the FLN's political dominance of the country since it won independence from France in 1962.

Among the groups ready to take advantage of the law are the Social Democratic Party, with a rapidly growing membership, the Democratic Union, and the Front

for Socialist Forces.

The Islamic Salvation Front and the Algerian Democratic Movement, led by Algeria's first president, Ahmad Ben Bella, expelled in Switzerland, are also getting together to form a platform for the first electoral test in municipal elections at the end of the year.

According to the text of the bill, groups wanting to form political parties can now apply to the Interior Ministry, which has two months to give a reply.

The new law forbids members of the military, policemen, magistrates or members of the constitutional council from belonging to political movements.

The state will contribute to each political party in proportion to its membership in parliament. All foreign material support for the parties is forbidden by the new law.

As FLN representatives debated the bill, several hundred people, many of them women, demonstrated peacefully in front of the parliament, calling for respect for women's rights and equality before the law.

The bill also forbids any party to be based on regional, linguistic, racial or religious grounds. Some deputies felt that article was aimed at Islamic fundamentalists or members of the Berber minority.



Eight Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories by the Israeli authorities pictured in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

W. Bank priest protests curfew

BEIT SAHOUR, Occupied West Bank (R) — A Greek Orthodox priest protested Sunday at an Israeli army curfew that kept Palestinians of the mostly-Christian town from church and appealed to the United States to intercede.

"I, as one of the priests of Beit Sahour, protest the disrespectful manner in which the military government and soldiers treat the religious leaders of the community," Father Issa Musleh said in a letter to the U.S. consulate.

"We appeal to the American consul to appeal on our behalf... so that the people of Beit Sahour can pray in church..."

A consulate spokesman in Jerusalem confirmed he had received the letter, delivered by Israeli peace activists, but had no immediate response.

Troops arrested about 10 prominent townsmen Saturday night, including religious leaders, professionals and intellectuals who have met Israeli peace activists throughout the 18-month-old Palestinian uprising.

There was no protest in Beit Sahour Sunday that might have prompted a curfew and the army said it was a pre-emptive move.

"The curfew is in order to prevent disturbances in the future. We were notified that there would be disturbances," a spokesman said.

Residents of the town of 10,000 protested earlier in the week against arrests by gathering in the main church and singing protest songs.

Israeli peace activist Hillel Baradin said: "We think people should be allowed to go to church, that freedom of worship should not be infringed, and that there should not be a curfew when the area is quiet."

The army spokesman said the Beit Sahour residents arrested were suspected of anti-Israeli violence.

Residents on the outskirts of the town told Reuters that troops made large-scale arrests throughout the district Saturday of suspected Palestinian activists. Among them was West Bank doctors' union head Victor Bataras, detained in Bethlehem.

Rabin dismisses criticism

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin has dismissed U.N. criticism of Israel's expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I'll take the Security Council seriously when they deal with the expulsion of 60,000 Turks from Bulgaria," Rabin said. "After that I will pay attention to what they say about the expulsion of eight leaders of the uprising in the territories."

The U.N. Security Council was due to meet Monday at the request of Arab states to deal with Israel's most recent expulsions — eight Palestinians accused of leading the 18-month-old revolt.

They were expelled to Lebanon Thursday. Israel has expelled 55 Palestinians since the start of the uprising in December 1987, prompting international condemnation spearheaded by the United Nations.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal, a member of Rabin's Labour Party, criticised the hawkish defence minister for trying to speed up expulsions by changing legislation that holds up such action pending appeal.

"Where did the defence ministry find the genius who suggested deport first and hear the appeal afterwards?" Shahal asked in remarks to the Jerusalem Post newspaper.

Rabin also urged cabinet ministers to keep the army out of the political debate after Foreign Minister Moshe Arens was quoted as saying new West Bank commander Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai would fight the uprising better than outgoing Major-General Amram Mitzna.

"The army must be kept outside the political fight. The army is a national asset that must be given the broadest backing certainly by the ministers of the government," he said.

Arens' office denied the foreign minister criticised Mitzna and said in a statement:

"The comments of the foreign minister were distorted and taken out of context. Regarding the head of central command, he only expressed his hope that the new general will succeed in his mission of dealing with the uprising."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israel bans Arab's play

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli authorities said Sunday they had banned a play written by an Israeli Arab, calling it a racist production that would incite anti-Israeli protests. But playwright Riad Masarwy of Nazareth said his work "The Ninth Wave" was censored because "the government could not deal with the political situation that exists today." The play is about a groom who is killed by Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank moment before his marriage, he said. As the bride dances around his dead body, relatives tell of Israeli atrocities against the Palestinian people since 1948. Masarwy, 40, said he would continue with rehearsals for the play which was due to open in Nazareth Sept. 4. "I do not hurt the feelings of anyone. I bring facts from the past and from the present. Apparently the authorities cannot handle these facts," he told Reuters. He said the play had been co-produced with a Belgian theatre group and involved five Belgian actors as well as five Arab actors. It was to have been performed in French and Arabic.

Tehran faces water shortage

NICOSIA (AP) — Tehran is running out of drinking water and authorities are urging the Iranian capital's estimated 10 million inhabitants to economise or face rationing, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Sunday. "If the call by the water department is not heeded, it is feared that some part of the city will have to do without water for a few hours every day, as some did Saturday," it said. The agency said that "the increasing population of the city and the absence or scarcity of alternative water resources... is pushing the authorities to impose periodic austerity for everyone so there will be round-the-clock water for all." IRNA said Tehran's water problems began in the 1960s, when people from rural areas began moving into the capital. The urban drift intensified after the 1979 revolution and the decline in agriculture. The city, where an estimated one-fifth of Iran's 50 million population live, has a low water fall during winter and spring and relies mainly the Karaj, Jajroud and Lar rivers for its water resources, IRNA said. The agency disclosed that water consumption — for drinking and washing — in Tehran was currently between 240,000 and 300,000 cubic metres a year above the capacity of reservoirs.

Herzog says Mulroney to visit Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — President Chaim Herzog returned to Israel Sunday after a ten day visit to Canada and said Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has accepted an invitation to visit Israel. During his 10 days visit, Herzog met with Canadian leaders and addressed both houses of parliament. He was the first senior Israeli figure to visit Ottawa since Canada lifted a ban on cabinet members and ambassadors meeting officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "I felt that there was an understanding of our position even if we did not see eye to eye on all issues," Herzog told reporters at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport. He said he invited Mulroney to visit Israel and "the visit is now being planned." He gave no other details of the expected visit.

7 women trampled to death in S. Arabia

RIYADH (R) — Seven women were trampled to death at a wedding party when a power cut sparked a stampede, the Dammam-based Al Yom newspaper reported Monday. The paper quoted a Ministry of Health official as saying three women were in serious condition while 22 others were being treated for minor injuries and shock. It said those killed in the all-women weekend party in the southern town of Jazan were four Saudi Arabians, a Yemeni, an Indonesian and a Sri Lankan. The official was quoted as saying the women were trampled to death after rushing out of the party venue when the lights went out.

Somali president wants direct dialogue

MOGADISHU (R) — Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre said Sunday he wanted a direct dialogue with "dissidents and opposition" in the interests of Somali unity. Barre made his statement at the end of a session of the ruling party's central committee. He did not refer directly to the Somali National Movement, whose guerrillas are fighting in northern Somalia, or to the opposition groups now based outside Somalia. He said he was ready to enter into dialogue "at any time and at any place" for the sake of unity. However, such a dialogue should be reasonable and just, he added. Barre described the current conflict as fratricide and said it was contrary to Islamic teaching. Thousands of Somalis fled into the neighbouring areas of Ethiopia to escape fighting in northern Somalia last year. The Somali government has called on them to return and has launched plans for rebuilding parts of Hargeisa and other towns which were destroyed in the fighting.

PLO banks on EC and uprising

TUNIS (R) — Palestinian leader Salah Khalaf says the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), facing deadlock in its dialogue with Washington, is banking on European influence and the Palestinian uprising against Israel to maintain pressure for Middle East peace.

Salah Khalaf, PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's deputy in the mainstream Fatah movement, told Reuters in an interview that in formal talks with the PLO in Tunis, the United States had not significantly changed its position on the Middle East.

"We still think the dialogue is a positive step and we have not despaired of it... but there has been no progress in the American position," he said in the interview Sunday.

In the dialogue, U.S. Ambassador Robert Pelletreau, the sole

channel for contacts, has tried to sell the Israeli government's plan for elections and to encourage meetings between Israelis and Palestinians from within the occupied territories, he said.

Khalaf said the election plan fell far short of PLO expectations. He said it ignored the organisation and said nothing about self-determination for the Palestinian people or Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza.

"We can't go into a tunnel when we don't know what's at the other end. Is it open or is it a dead end?" he said.

Asked what other options the PLO had, he said, "take for example the statement by the European Community (EC), it's excellent. It's good and it's positive, it contains fundamental changes..."

"The community can play a very important role by talking to the Americans, by talking to the Israelis, to convince them of the idea contained in their statement."

At a summit in Madrid last week, the EC adopted a position on the Middle East close to that of the PLO and said for the first time that the PLO should take part in an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli dispute.

The other option, he said, was to keep up the intifada. "The intifada is a very important element. It has a big effect on Israel every day."

He said the PLO had no objections to contacts between Israeli leaders and Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza, provided these were not understood as negotiations.

The office of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has said recently that Shamir was planning to meet Palestinians, including PLO sympathisers, to discuss his election plan.

Khalaf said no Palestinians had yet asked the PLO for clearance to take part in such meetings and he did not expect Shamir to invite them before a Likud party meeting on the elections plan Wednesday.

He said the PLO position was that any official delegation for talks with Israeli leaders should be from both inside and outside the territories. Arafat has named Edward Said and Ibrahim Abu Lughud, two Palestinian Americans, as possible participants in such a team.

"It's not out of the question that a member of the leadership should also be in the delegation."



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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

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PROGRAMME ONE
15:00 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
17:05 Sea Hunt
18:00 News summary in Arabic
18:05 Local programme
19:10 Agricultural programme
19:45 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO
15:00 Le Monde Est à Vous
19:00 News in French
19:15 Tante
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Documentary on Jerash
21:10 Charlie Chaplin
22:00 News in English
22:20 Wish Me Luck II

PRAYER TIMES

03:55 Fair
05:30 (Sunrise) Duhla
12:40 Dhuhr
16:20 'Asr
19:50 Maghreb
21:25 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Swedieh Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrasanta Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 623383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assiout International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 685326
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 821264

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will be relatively hot and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Amman Min./max. temp. 19 / 34
Aqaba 25 / 40
Dhahran 19 / 39
Jordan Valley 24 / 39

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 33, Aqaba 40. Humidity readings: Amman 35 per cent, Aqaba 36 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Fayez Jallouqa 634207
Dr. Hussein Haddad 731267
Dr. Ahmad Othman 786384
Dr. Issa Abu Haidar 637123
First pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asseim pharmacy 637055
Nairookh pharmacy 626672
At Salan pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shimcisan pharmacy 637660

IRBID:
Dr. Fidiyyeh Jboun (—)
Al Sharaa' pharmacy (985238)

ZARQA:
Company 636381

Dr. Mufeed Damra 985522
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 897447
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 605800
Complaints 897447
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 010230
Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Radio Jordan 773111
Radio Television 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 06-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 81381322
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn. 6423816
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn. 6424412
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine Shmeisani 641714
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Munshir Hospital 6672279
The Islamic, Abdali 6641707
Al-Ahli, Abdali 6641646
Italian, Al-Muhajreh 7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126
Jeddah (RJ) 89161115
Queen Alia Hospital 60224050
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272725
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)5320005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
05:30 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
09:45 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:15 Aqaba (RJ)
10:20 Belgrade (RJ)
10:30 Cairo (RJ)
10:35 Dhahran (RJ)
10:40 Kuwait (RJ)
10:45 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
10:55 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
13:00 Kuwait (RJ)
14:20 Miami, Vienna (RJ)
16:45 Montreal, New York (RJ)
18:15 Athens (RJ)
18:50 Doha (RJ)
19:15 Belgrade (RJ)
19:40 Istanbul, Ankara (RJ)
19:55 Copenhagen, Frankfurt (RJ)
20:15 Dhahran (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:25 Kuwait (KU)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
15:00 Larnaca, Moscow (SU)
16:40 Riyadh (SV)
16:55 Dubai (AZ)
20:00 Dubai (EK)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg
Apples (golden) 350 / 500
Apples (Kashaba) 350 / 300
Apples (nabkhi) 350 / 300
Apricots 160 / 200
Bananas 400 / 350
Bananas (Mukammal) 350 / 300
Carrots 320 / 250
Cabbages 160 / 40
Cauliflowers 120 / 80
Cherry 1200 / 1000
Corn 160 / 100
Cucumbers 180 / 150
Eggplant 190 / 140
Garlic 500 / 400
Grapes 270 / 200
Grapes (red) 220 / 180
Lemon (yellow) 800 / 700
Lemon (green) 600 / 550
Mazraa 270 / 200
Olives 420 / 350
Orange 320 / 300
Onion (dry) 1100 / 80
Pepper (hot) 300 / 250
Pepper (sweet) 220 / 180
Potatoes 240 / 200
Tomatoes 150 / 120

Delegates to children's congress start leaving

AMMAN (J.T.) — Delegations from 15 Arab countries who took part in the ninth children's congress began leaving here for home following a week-long visit as well as cultural and recreational programmes.

Among those leaving Monday were children's groups from Iraq, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Kuwait.

Altogether, 60 boys and girls took part in the activities which included visits to tourist and archaeological sites, cultural events, visits to Jordanian families, recreational programmes, visits to the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea and a meeting with Her Majesty Queen Noor who sponsors the annual event through the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHFF).

Interviewed by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, shortly before departure the children and their supervisor voiced deep

appreciation for the hospitality accorded to them during their stay in Jordan, and said that the visit immensely increased their knowledge about Arab culture.

Upon conclusion of the event Sunday, the children held a seminar attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal, at the end of which they issued a set of recommendations calling for more care and attention to children at schools and homes, underlining the importance of books and publications as the major source of knowledge for children and calling for a greater measure of interaction among the cultures of the Arab World.

The children called on Arab intellectuals and script-writers to produce more books for the benefit of children and urged more cultural programmes to be organised for children in all Arab countries.



Nsour opens camp at Dibbin park

Education Minister Abdullah Nsour Monday opened a camp at Dibbin National Park, near Jerash, and addressed the 185 participants, urging them to carry out useful work and voluntary service for their community. The participants are all members of scout organisations from

different parts of the Kingdom who will spend a week in the camp, training in civil defence work, automotive, electricity and other trades as well as doing scout duties. The minister underlined the scout movement's importance in developing the youth of Jordan (Petra)

PSD destroys large drug haul

AMMAN (J.T.) — A large haul of drugs seized from smugglers in Jordan over the past few months was burnt Monday at the kilns of the Jordan Cement Factories Company under the supervision of the Public Security Department (PSD).

Major General Nasonh Muhieddin, PSD assistant director said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the haul was made up of 1,348 kilograms of hashish, nine kilograms of heroin, 26 kilograms of opium, 51,658 capsules and 207 cannabis saplings.

He said that the drugs were seized in a total of 99 drug trafficking cases and had a street

value of JD 2 million. Maj-Gen. Muhieddin said that the drug trafficking cases in the first half of 1989 reached an unprecedented level but did not disclose any figures.

Muhieddin said that most of the drugs were destined to other Arab countries which normally consume them and that Jordan has a relatively low number of drug addicts.

The Kingdom's central geographical location between drug producing and drug consuming countries makes it prone to drug smuggling operations, Muhieddin noted.

But he added that the PSD has been very active foiling most of the smugglers' attempts at traf-

ficking and peddling the illicit products.

Last month the PSD announced that a haul of hashish with a street value estimated at JD 300,000 was seized by the police and customs authorities as it was being smuggled into Jordan from Syria.

The PSD said that 232 kilograms of hashish were found hidden inside a lorry that arrived at the border town of Ramtha from Syria in March this year.

The PSD announced that it had broken the biggest drug smuggling operations in Jordan's history, seizing two and a half tonnes of hashish, 300,000 capsules pills altogether worth JD 2 million.

Aqaba Labour Department offers 112 jobs to unemployed Jordanians

AQABA (Petra) — Aqaba Labour Department last month offered 112 jobs to unemployed Jordanians living in the Aqaba area, according to department Director Jamal Abu Tayeh. He said that the jobs were in dif-

ferent industrial and trade fields. Abu Tayeh said that nearly 95 per cent of the workers in industrial concerns in Aqaba are Jordanians, who also form 85 per cent of the total number of employees in the transport sector.

Abu Tayeh said the Vocational Training Corporation is helping in the process of finding jobs to the unemployed by offering them training courses as drivers so that they can replace non-Jordanians in the transport sector.

Delegates for 5th expatriate conference begin arriving

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates who will take part in the Fifth Jordanian Expatriates Conference began converging on Amman, and according to sources at the Ministry of Labour, which is organising the meeting, some 1,000 delegates will attend the four-day meeting.

Mr. Azmi Al Muhtaseb, director of the ministry's Expatriates Affairs Department said that the conference to be held under Royal patronage will be attended

by representatives of various types of expatriates groups from different countries.

This year's participants, Muhtaseb noted, is nearly double the number of last year.

One of the major topics for discussion is the establishment of a private university in Jordan to serve the expatriates and their children, according to Ministry of Labour officials.

They were quoted by Sawt Al Shaab daily Monday as saying

that the private university, to be known as the University of Applied Sciences, will open its doors in the coming year.

The projected university's capital is JD 10 million of which JD 6 million has already been paid up, the report said.

It said that the process of registering the university with the Ministry of Industry and Trade as a share-holding company has already started.

Red Crescent society to organise international youth camp in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) will organise its first international youth camp in Jordan Thursday and according to an official statement Monday participants from 12 Arab and foreign countries are expected to take part in the camp's activities.

The statement said that the 75 participants aged between 15 and 17 years will hold seminars, panel discussions, and hear lectures on the work and operations of the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies around the world, as

well as humanitarian assistance and the Geneva agreements on providing voluntary service.

The participants will also watch documentary films on humanitarian services and will make field trips to archaeological and tourist areas in the country, the statement added.

The statement said that the week-long activities are designed to corroborate international understanding and promote the cause of peace as well as increase youth contribution to voluntary and humanitarian services around

the world.

The participants, the statement noted, will have the chance to exchange views and hold open discussions on various activities carried out by the Red Crescent and Red Cross societies.

Taking part in the camp to be opened by Minister of Education Abdullah Nsour at Allan, north west of Amman — are delegates from Iraq, Egypt, North Yemen, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Turkey, Bulgaria, West Germany and Sweden in addition to Jordan.

Sanaa seeks to acquire Jordanian expertise in housing — N. Yemeni aide

AMMAN (J.T.) — North Yemen hopes to acquire Jordanian expertise in housing operations and is interested in promoting bilateral cooperation in construction, North Yemeni Ministry of Municipalities and Housing Under Secretary Mohammad Al Ashwal said in a statement here Monday.

Speaking at a meeting with Yousef Hiyasat, director of the Housing Corporation, Ashwal said that North Yemen will open all channels for bilateral cooperation with Jordan in the construction of housing units and similar projects.

Hiyasat briefed Ashwal on the corporation's plans to build units at a minimum cost using locally produced materials for the benefit of low income groups.

He said that Jordan gives due attention to housing schemes providing essential services to all its housing estates.

Under a national housing strategy, which was recently approved by the government here, the housing corporation plans to set up units around the Amman, Hiyasat noted.

He reviewed with Ashwal development of the corporation's programmes over the years, noting that so far the corporation carried out 74 housing projects of 15,000 units estimated at JD 159 million.

Hiyasat also briefed the North Yemeni official on progress in the production of the Jordan building

code which provides national specifications for all building operations in the country.

North Yemen and Jordan are linked through the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), which also groups Iraq and Egypt, and through a joint Jordanian-North Yemeni Higher Committee which meets alternatively in Sanaa and Amman.

The last meeting held in Janu-

ary 1989 under the co-chairmanship of the prime ministers of the two countries, resulted in a wide ranging agreement on bilateral cooperation.

Among other things, the two sides decided to exchange legislations on construction work and engineering publications dealing with public works and transport, and qualifications of engineers as well as consultancy firms.

North Yemen agreed to give Jordanian contractors favourable treatment in tenders for projects in North Yemen and to allow Jordanian engineers and contractors associations to open offices in Sanaa to study potential schemes.

N. Yemeni team visits teachers training college

AMMAN (Petra) — An educational team from North Yemen Monday visited the advanced teachers training college in Amman, and was briefed on its development and courses.

The college was created by the Ministry of Higher Education to upgrade the qualifications and improve the skills of Jordanian teachers.

Another North Yemeni team, representing the Ministry of Municipalities and Housing had a meeting with the deputy mayor of Amman Sultan Khleifat. Cooperation in municipal and construction services between Sanaa and Amman was discussed at the meeting. Khleifat briefed the guests on the Greater Amman Municipality's expansion projects and various services.

RSS, bank sign accord to study economic situation in Madaba

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the Cities and Villages Development Bank's Regional Development Fund (RDF) have signed an agreement according to which the RSS will conduct a seven-month study of the economic and social situation in Madaba district while the RDF will finance the study.

This study is designed to look into the available capabilities in the field of investment and particularly investment in small and medium-size productive projects, acting director of the RSS Economic Research Centre, Dr. Ahmad Qasem, said.

This study will involve office and field works. Data available at

concerned ministries and institutions will be collected, economic, social, health, educational, and other services in the district.

Furthermore, the necessary statistics regarding the number of schools, teachers, health centres and other facilities will also be collected.

Seminar discusses protection of Jerash archaeological sites

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on the archaeology of the Ancient Greco-Roman City of Jerash and means of protecting its remains was held at the University of Jordan Monday with the participation of a group of specialists in antiquities from the university, the Department of Antiquities and the private sector.

Several topics related to the ancient city's history and geography, the nature and design of its buildings and the city's historical

importance were discussed along with a number of working papers dealing with restoration work in the city.

Dr. Adnan Al Bakhit, dean of the university's Scientific Research Department, referred to Jerash as serving as one of the focal points for the Arab and foreign countries over the past 10 years in view of its annual cultural and artistic events.

Mr. Akram Masarweh, director general of the Jerash Festival of Culture and Art, said that the

seminar dealt on the importance of Jerash as a source of culture and one that abounds with interesting architectural designs and specialists and scholars alike.

The seminar came only 30 days before the opening of the Jerash Festival in the ancient city where troupes from 25 countries in addition to Jordan will take part.

The opening date, Wednesday, July 5, is expected to be marked with a special ceremony to be held under royal patronage.



Seminar on the archaeology of the Ancient Greco-Roman city of Jerash is held Monday at the University of Jordan.

New software product unveiled in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The American computer company Management Science of America (MSA) Monday launched the Brightview product range, a new software technology aimed at making main frame computers "more friendly."

"Brightview is the logical development of what's been going on in the (computer) market," said Mike Duff, the director of local partner programme of MSA.

Duff was in Jordan for a four-day conference Monday that brought together the MSA partners from Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Jordan to discuss the applicability of Brightview in the Middle East. MSA, which is based in Atlanta, Georgia, operates in 61 countries worldwide.

According to Duff, this new development in software combines the simplicity of using a personal computer and the sophis-

ticatedness of a complex main terminal computer.

The English version of Brightview was launched in April this year after six months and six million dollars in research. In January of this year, MSA started research with a dual language computer company on "Arabising" Brightview, and according to Duff the result of such research should crystallise "in the not so

distant future."

"Information technology is very much a competitive weapon today. It's a cost cutting approach that enables management to define strategies, to measure their success, to implement their strategies, to set targets in terms of projects and to monitor them," said Duff, adding that many systems are not capable of fulfilling such functions.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by three Arab artists representing Bahrain, Syria and Jordan at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- ★ An art exhibition entitled "Songs of the Earth" by Mohamad Nasrallah at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ An exhibition of children's books held within the framework of the Ninth Arab Children's Congress at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photography exhibition entitled "Constructed Narratives" at the British Council.
- ★ An exhibition of Palestinian heritage at the Professional Associations Complex.

FILM

- ★ A German film entitled "The Doctor of Stalingrad" (English subtitled) at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.

UNFPA expert visits Yarmouk

IRBID (J.T.) — Dr. Majid Khan, an expert working for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) called at Yarmouk University Monday and had a meeting with its president, Dr. Mohammad Hamdan who

briefed him on the University's projects and development. Khan briefed Hamdan on the fund's activities and learnt from university deans about a people's communication project which is being implemented in coopera-

tion with the fund and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). The project entails visits by university students to various rural areas in the Irbidi Governorate.

مكتبة الأمل

Jordan Times

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Hiking for trouble

ISRAELI hikers, with or without military escort, are roaming the West Bank and Gaza Strip these days to provoke the Palestinians and escalate the already over-charged tension existing in the area. To choose these trying times, when the Palestinians are waging their intifada and the international community is busy searching for a mutually acceptable formula to end the Palestinian conflict is utterly irresponsible. How can Israeli leaders speak of free and democratic elections in these very territories, ostensibly to allow the people there to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination, when they orchestrate such provocative hikes right in the heart of the occupied Arab territories? How else can the Palestinians interpret such hostile actions of the Israeli government, as well as from the militant and extremist Israelis, except as a direct effort to breach all sensible attempts to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and abort even the election idea proposed by Prime Minister Shamir himself? If the ultra-right Israelis wish to stake a claim to all of Palestine and preempt even the results of the election scheme, why would the Israeli government, the champion of this election idea, act as an accomplice to these hostile forces within Israel by facilitating the execution of their antagonistic hikes across the West Bank? This state of affairs leads us to the inevitable conclusion that the Israeli establishment has never been sincere about its election play and that by allowing extremists to zigzag the occupied Arab territories with complete knowledge of their views and dreams, it has shown its true colour for all to see.

Surely Israel knows that such challenges as posed by the Israeli hikers will make the Palestinians all the more determined to continue their uprising until Israeli extremism is uprooted from its source. If Israel's bullets and all these shades of oppression have failed to thwart the Palestinian will to wage their relentless struggle to regain their political rights, a few hundred Israeli hikers will not either. On the contrary, the hikers will only succeed in exacerbating further the tension unhappily existing between the Palestinians and the Israelis and undermine the opportunities for peace between them.



Amman — Sawi Al-Sabah

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al-Rai Arabic daily on Monday commended the Central Bank of Jordan for its recent measures designed to stabilise the national currency and replenish the country's foreign exchange reserves. But it said that what Jordan needs more at the moment is self-confidence and determination to foil what it called the black hands that try to cause harm to the Kingdom and its stability. It said that those elements working in the dark and trying to harm the national economy are very few, and there was need for national unity and an all out determination to abort such evil schemes. The paper said that the economic crisis facing Jordan at the moment has come about gradually; and it is only natural to believe that through gradual but firm steps can we overcome the negative effects and tidy the country over its present difficulties. It is natural for Jordan under the present circumstances and given the current economic and political developments in the Middle East region to be facing a hard time, the paper noted. But, it said, that five given time, patience, perseverance and hard work, the Jordanian people can deal successfully with the situation.

A columnist in Al-Rai Arabic daily dwells in his Monday column on Israel's recent deportation of a group of eight Palestinians charged with committing resistance activity against the occupation forces. Ibrahim Sakikija says that the Israeli action was condemned by the Arabs and the whole international community, and the question is being debated at the United Nations Security Council later Monday. One cannot predict the outcome of the coming debate and can only wonder about Washington's position this time in the light of continued U.S. support for the Jewish State, the writer notes. He says whether the council condemns or fails to condemn the atrocities of the Israeli government there is no chance at all that the Israeli government will return to their homeland; and whether the council supports the Palestinian people's struggle or not, there is no hope for stopping the Israeli inhuman actions, the demolition of homes and the killing of the innocent women and children. Sakikija refers to previous council resolutions which did nothing to put an end to the Israeli arbitrary actions and notes that with the power of veto, Washington is bound to continue its encouragement of the Jewish state to pursue its repressive actions.

Saw: Al-Sabah daily focused its attention Monday on the situation in Lebanon where the shelling of residential areas has been stepped up despite ongoing mediation efforts to end the ordeal of the Lebanese people. The paper referred to a visit Monday to Damascus by the foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria in a fresh bid to find a formula for an end to the bloodshed. It said that on the eve of the visit, Iraq announced loud and clear that it supports the Arab League's mediation efforts and will provide all possibilities facilities to make the three ministers' mission a success. But the paper added that Iraq's contribution is not enough, and noted that cooperation on the part of Syria and the other parties in Lebanon itself is urgently required. The paper said that the civil war in Lebanon that has been simmering for the past 15 years cannot be ended overnight; and in addition to the Arab League's endeavours, individual Arab countries' cooperation and influence is needed to attain fruitful results.

Weekly Political Pulse

Call Shamir's bluff

By Waleed Sadi

WHILE the extremists in the Likud camp are crying wolf at the thought of allowing the Palestinians to elect their own representatives and see in it a potentially fatal blow to their determination to hold on to Arab lands, Shamir is counting on Arab Palestinian rejection of the election scheme to confirm his instinct that the final stage for Palestinian determination of their future will never materialise. At the same time, what better public relations gimmick for Israel to fool the international community than to raise high the placard calling for free and democratic elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip? After all, who can quarrel with an offer to give the Palestinians an opportunity to freely choose their representatives? That explains in part why the international community has, by and large, voiced support for the idea — provided the elections in question meet certain fundamental conditions, including holding them in a truly free and democratic manner and away from the duress of Israeli occupation. Other caveats, added by the Arab side, include assurances that any such elections can be translated into the establishment of an indepen-

dent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Yet, Shamir is gambling that his seemingly "attractive plan" will never get to the stage where it could pose a threat to Israel's established policy to keep physical control over Arab territories. One can almost see Shamir winking at Sharon and his clique, reassuring them that there is little to worry about, that the master plan is always in safe hands. It appears that such implicit promises are not sufficient for Sharon and like-minded Israelis, who insist on iron clad guarantees that the whole exercise will come to naught.

Under these circumstances, would it not be more prudent of the Palestinian side to call Shamir's bluff and accept the challenge of negotiating the terms and conditions of the proposed election rather than to reject them outright? This may not be a popular choice, but it certainly would be a smart move.

If the Palestinian side would accept the idea of elections in principle and offer to negotiate the circumstances that would make such elections truly free and democratic, it would enjoy wide

international support and understanding. By insisting that Israel heed the results of the elections, including the projected decision to establish a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Palestinian side stands to gain support and appreciation as well. For no true broker of free and democratic elections in the occupied Arab territories would seek to deny the voting Palestinians the outcome of the expression of their right to self-determination in its widest and fullest dimensions.

To be sure, and as of now, Israel is in no mood to allow the process of elections to come to fruition. Shamir is betting on the Palestinian side to save him from the consequences of his gamble. One can be sure that the Likud people in the Israeli government have many surprises up their sleeves designed to sabotage the voting process in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — should worse come to worse and the Palestinians take up the Shamir challenge at face value and accept the vote proposal. But, since the whole exercise appears to be a publicity stunt, why not win it for the side of the Arabs by taking Shamir to task and playing his game?

Bush aims to encourage new trends in Poland, Hungary

By Barry Schweid
 The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President George Bush aims to encourage positive trends in Eastern Europe and score another foreign policy success when he visits the region this month.

Poland and Hungary, members of the Warsaw Pact military alliance, are undertaking political and economic reforms, and the president wants to lead some support when he visits the countries July 9-13.

Like most American conservatives, Bush sees a free market economy and political freedoms developing in tandem. There are signs this morning on a limited scale in both Communist countries.

Bush will take with him a package of incentives, carefully tied to

good management in Warsaw and Budapest. Then at a July 14-16 summit meeting in Paris with the leaders of six other industrial democracies, Bush will urge others to provide backing.

The risk is that Bush might upset the Soviets. But Mikhail Gorbachev has acknowledged his own economy needs an overhaul, and he's offering the Soviet people a heady mixture of glasnost, or openness, and perestroika, or restructuring.

Bush advised the Soviet leader at a recent news conference not to "upbraid" (irritate) about his trip to Eastern Europe. Treading carefully, the president said he would not exhort the Poles or the Hungarians into actions that could provoke repression.

Considering Gorbachev's own programme at home, and the

enormous cost to the Soviets of subsidising East European economies, the president is likely to succeed in his efforts to stimulate democracy.

Soviet tanks rolled into Hungary in 1956 and into Czechoslovakia in 1968 to suppress reform movements. Those movements did not have Moscow's support.

This time around, Hungary and Poland have not stepped over the line by threatening to evolve out of the Soviet orbit.

Bush described his immediate objectives this way: "I want to see a much more open Europe. And I think that the importance of the visit is along that line. It's not going to be that we're going to solve the problem of the Hungarian economy or the Polish economy."

The Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank in

Washington, is optimistic about prospects for economic changes in Eastern Europe and wants the White House to promote the trend.

Burton Yale Pines, the director of research, said Bush's trip could produce the first U.S. policy for Eastern Europe since World War II.

"The United States has never had a policy toward Eastern Europe," Pines said. "We've had ad hoc responses."

Earlier trips to the region by presidents Richard Nixon and Jimmy Carter were designed "to tweak" Moscow, Pines asserted. Now the circumstances are different.

Moscow is rethinking its role in the region, and Bush will visit at a time of enormous political, economic and cultural change. Gor-

bachev has offered to withdraw some troops and tanks from the East. The NATO-Warsaw Pact negotiations in Vienna could produce a wholesale reduction in forces.

"If Soviet troops really pull out you are giving a green light to reform," Pines said.

Kim R. Holmes, director of foreign policy research at the Heritage Foundation, stressed the economic burden the East Europeans are to Moscow's own sagging economy.

"Eastern Europe is an economic basket case, plagued with low productivity, low motivation, an increasingly obsolete industrial base, an ecological crisis and a debt to the West of over \$1 billion," he said.

According to Holmes, the Soviets spend at least \$21 billion a year for trade subsidies and credits, and economic and military aid — beyond what it costs Moscow to maintain its half-million

troops in East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Poland.

"Gorbachev may be willing to consider a partial and gradual disengagement from Eastern Europe in order to preserve the power of the Communist Party at home and to concentrate on solving his own economic crisis," Holmes said.

What this adds up to for Bush is a unique opportunity for back-to-back successes in Europe.

In May, at the NATO summit meeting in Brussels, Bush unveiled a proposal for reductions of troops, tanks, artillery and other armament in Europe, earning praise for his response to Gorbachev's own bold initiatives.

Apart from the public relations dividend, Bush's move on the table in Vienna for the two alliances to work toward an accord that would require far greater arms reductions by Moscow than by Washington.

U.S. Senate's foreign relations panel stalemated

By Lawrence L. Knutson
 The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate committee on foreign relations, once considered a summit of U.S. legislative prestige and power, appeared mired in conflict among its members.

In recent weeks, the committee has floundered through political disputes over several controversial ambassadorial appointments. Then it broke for a two-week recess without getting much work done on the foreign aid bill for the next two years.

Failure to make progress on the bill put into question the fate of the two-year, \$23 billion spending authorization, which was adopted by the House of Representatives on June 29. Both the Senate and the House must adopt identical versions of the same bill for it to become law. The House bill was whipped into shape by Dante Fascell, the grizzled chairman of the foreign affairs committee. Displaying the bite, bark and manner of a drill sergeant, the congressman from Florida pushed the measure through.

However, Fascell's counterpart in the Senate, chairman Claiborne Pell, has been virtually the only committee member to attend meetings on the aid bill.

There is, he declared wryly, "a profound lack of interest in this bill."

Then there were holdups over several controversial ambassadorial appointments by U.S. President George Bush which required the panel's approval.

Donald Gregg, the nominee to be ambassador to South Korea, was the target of a Democratic probe into allegations that he used a former position as national security adviser to Vice President Bush to help the illegal resupply of the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

The committee then tried to return to the larger and more potentially controversial foreign aid bill, again.

But once again, no quorum could be mustered.

of America and the payment of millions of dollars of past-due payments to the United Nations, a course favoured by Pell.

The panel decided that the transmitters should be funded but that the money should not be taken out of the U.N. account as Sen. Jesse Helms demanded. No one said where the money would come from in a foreign affairs account that is already nearly \$800 million over budget ceilings.

The committee then tried to return to the larger and more potentially controversial foreign aid bill, again.

But once again, no quorum could be mustered.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Gregg denied the charge and the opposition Republican Party members on the committee organised a boycott of the panel's meetings believing that Democrats were trying to fan the fading members of the Iran-contra affair and sink the Gregg nomination.

Sen. Mitch McConnell called off the boycott after Sen. Alan Cranston, a Democrat, agreed to let the Gregg nomination go to a vote on June 20.

A tug of war has also broken out over two competing spending priorities. The construction in Israel of two expensive broadcasting transmitters for the Voice

Many observers say that the panel's member is not its chairman but Helms who, as the ranking Republican member, is the architect of his own highly conservative, highly anti-Communist foreign policy.

Pell, aided by his fellow Democrats, has managed to hold firm against Helms' determined and imaginative tactics. But Helms has more than once growled, "don't you try to railroad me, Mr. Chairman."

Helms fiercely opposed Senate ratification of the U.S.-Soviet medium-range missile treaty two years ago. During the panel's

lengthy consideration of it, senior Democrats made sure one of all of them were present to rebut his assertions and attempt to overcome his tactics.

Helms also has engaged in a long-running battle with the State Department, drawing criticism for allegedly delaying diplomatic nominations in order to gain leverage in battles over foreign policy.

The committee's influence has been slipping since Fulbright's chairmanship in the early 1970s with the exception of a brief renaissance when Sen. Richard Lugar headed the panel for two years beginning in 1985.

During the Lugar years, foreign aid legislation marched with unaccustomed ease through the Congress, a consensus was won on controversial sanctions against white-ruled South Africa, and Lugar headed change U.S. policy toward dictatorial rule in the Philippines.

But that was a brighter-than-usual period in the committee's long decline.

LETTERS Undisciplined desires

To the Editor:

If cigarette smoking produces a degeneration of the cells of the brain, the taking of narcotics and intoxicants wrecks the nervous system and causes cancer, tuberculosis, heart ailments, and venereal diseases to those lame ducks who practice such unattractive stimulants. Tolstoy once said: "Why do men stupefy themselves with tobacco?"

A heavy smoker, a light smoker, and a nonsmoker were provided with brand new cars of the same trademark, the same model, and the same horsepower. The three were ordered to drive their cars at a maximum speed of 40 kilometre per hour from a common starting point. After they had driven their cars for a distance of one kilometre, barricades were thrown in their route at a distance of three yards. The heavy smoker, unable to control his car, hit the barricade with a terrific blow that his car was a total loss, a heap of metal; the light smoker hit the barricade with less ferocity, and his car was slightly damaged; the nonsmoker applied his brakes, stopped his car in due course, and escaped unharmed.

This example illustrates the menacing effect of smoking on brain cells, on eyesight, and on nerve cells, called neurones. For if a person smokes a pack a day,

that person inhales 400 milligrams of nicotine a week. That much in a single dose would kill that person instantly.

Our legislative assembly ought to legislate against the driving of any type of vehicle on our roads by heavy smokers and drug addicts. As regards light smokers, they should be prohibited from driving school buses.

The chain-smoker suffers from chronic tired feeling or fatigue. Therefore, it is not enough to prohibit smoking in public places and on public conveyances. Smokers should not be allowed to endanger the lives of innocent citizens by driving their vehicles negligently or recklessly. Every driver should be subjected to a rigorous and comprehensive medical examination before a driving licence is issued to him if we are to reduce the increasing number of accidents and traffic offences.

As parents and teachers, God will hold us responsible if we fail to discipline the natural and unnatural desires of our children. If we are to live abundantly, and if we are aiming at building a healthy, energetic, and vigorous society, then the first step to take is to discipline our bodily desires and those of our children.

George N. Saig
 Amman

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Producers battle for rain forest hero tale

By Nina J. Easton

LLYWOOD — In a village in the South American rain forest, where trees tower over shabby houses and shabby remnants to form a leafy copy, a group of Brazilian environmentalists will meet soon to decide the fate of one of the most important film projects in recent Hollywood history.

The Brazilians who gather in a village near the western edge of Brazil, hold the rights to the story of Chico Mendes, a peasant who captured the world's attention with his attempts to save Brazil's rain forests from being destroyed.

In the six months since Mendes was gunned down in his back yard allegedly by local ranching interests — his story has been used by such entertainment heavyweights as Robert Redford, Steven Spielberg, David Puttnam and Ted Turner.

Producers and directors have flocked to Rio Branco, a frontier town that requires a seven-hour flight with three stopovers from de Janeiro, to lobby Mendes' story and his followers. They are flown in Portuguese and Spanish versions of their movies. They have offered to pay for worldwide TV commercials to promote preservation of the rain forest. And, one by one, they've dangled hundreds of thousands of dollars in front of Mendes' family and the foundation that bears his name.

We've all seen bidding wars

on scripts," said leading artists agent Robert L. Stein. "But in 21 years in the business I can't recall the kind of innuendo that has taken place on this one. The players are international players. It's competition on a global level."

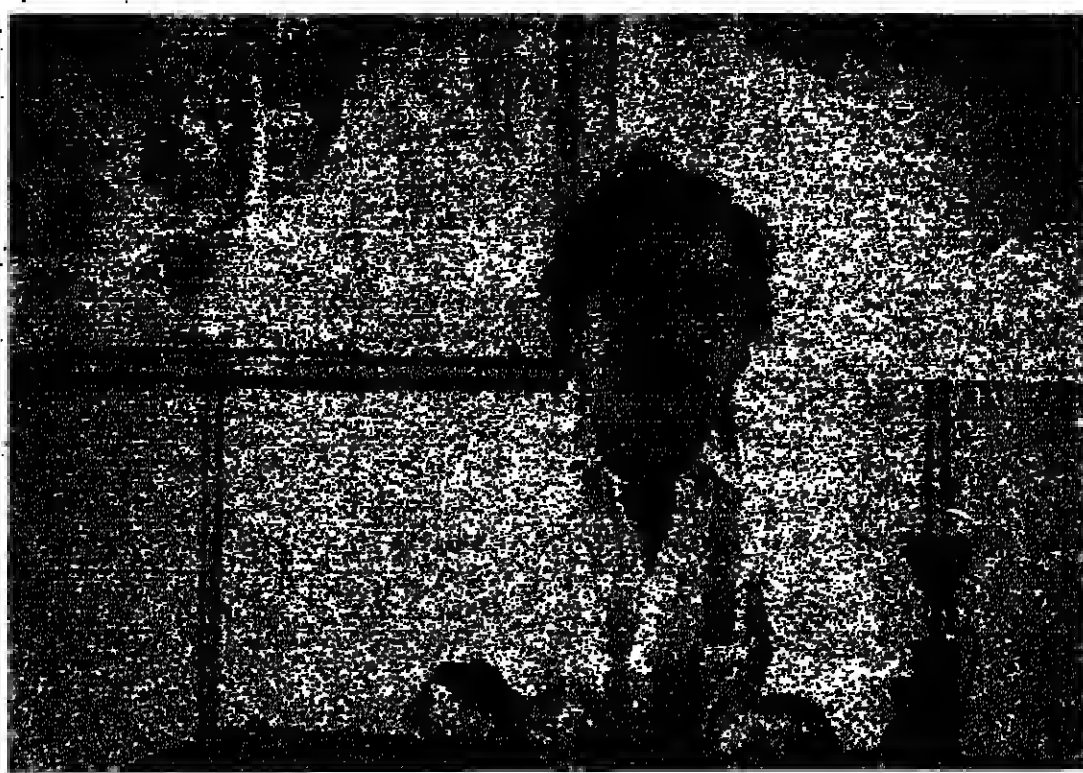
Two of Stein's clients are on Putnam's team: Chris Menges, a former cinematographer (The Killing Fields) who made his directing debut last year with the anti-apartheid film A World Apart, and the respected documentary maker Adrian Cowell, who was doing a film on Mendes when he was murdered. Warner Bros., under its production agreement with Putnam's Enigma Productions Company, is backing this group.

Putnam's principal competitors are: Robert Redford, who has drafted Brazilian actress Sonia Braga (whom he directed in The Milagro Beanfield War) to smooth the way with the local population. Redford has proposed doing two projects: a feature that would be financed by 20th Century Fox and directed by Steven Spielberg, and a second project through his own production company.

Cable TV mogul Ted Turner, who is already producing a documentary on Mendes' death or air on his cable superstation TBS in October. Turner is now seeking rights for a made-for-TV movie.

The British film distributor Goldcrest Co., which has promised that Costa-Gavras (Missing, Betrayed) would direct its film.

— Jon Peters and Peter Guber,



Chico Mendes

who have produced such films as Batman, the box-office hit Rain Man, and Gorillas in the Mist about anthropologist Dian Fossey.

J.N. Filmes, a Brazilian company whose principal partner is the son of the late Nelson Rodrigues, one of the country's most celebrated playwrights. J.N. Filmes has made four feature films since 1982.

The race for the rights to

Mendes' story appeared to end, if only momentarily, June 7 when J.N. Filmes hosted a press conference in Rio de Janeiro to announce that it had acquired the rights to Mendes' story from his young widow, Ilzamar. But the announcement merely raised the ante in the competition.

"Ilzamar Mendes had signed this agreement with J.N. Filmes without authorization," argued

Alan U. Schwartz, a Los Angeles attorney retained by the Chico Mendes Foundation in April to broker the influx of movie proposals. Schwartz's view is shared by other leaders of the foundation, which is administering the rights to Mendes' story and holds the key to cooperation from friends, family and followers.

The film makers pursuing Mendes' story appear to have stumbled onto a power struggle

within the political movement that Mendes left when he died.

"Quite frankly, it's not simply a matter of these deals," Schwartz said. "It's also a matter of where the authority of the movement should lie."

Mendes' widow is president of the foundation's board, but she sits on the board with representatives of six different union, environmental and Indian organizations, each of which has a voice in the direction of the movement. Ilzamar's agreement with J.N. Filmes surprised many of those representatives.

In a phone interview Jofre Rodrigues, the main partner in J.N. Filmes, insisted that his agreement with Mendes' widow was "binding." He added, "We made a perfect contract, so perfect that it is irreversible."

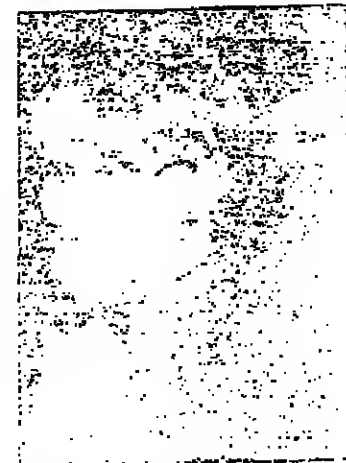
Rodrigues said that his company has already made payments to Ilzamar Mendes, as well as Mendes' first wife and daughter. And J.N. Filmes had signed up the successful Brazilian novelist Marcio Souza to write a screenplay for the movie.

The foundation's leaders were scheduled to meet in Xapuri this week to discuss whether to ratify the J.N. Filmes deal, to dismiss it in favour of another proposal, or, in the most likely scenario, to appoint a major Hollywood film maker as a partner with J.N.

It is not just Mendes' life that has generated so much interest in Hollywood, it is also his stature as a hero, and now martyr, of the environmental movement.



Robert Redford



Steven Spielberg

"The environment has become a very hot issue here," Schwartz said. "You've got this very fashionable issue and (Mendes' story) is a direct focal point for it. In a very visual way, you can make a story about it."

Mendes started organizing local peasants in the 1970s because he wanted to preserve a way of life for the thousands of rubber tappers who, like himself, earned a meager living by extracting latex from the forest's rubber trees.

As his work gained international recognition, environmentalists concerned about the destruction of the rain forest by settlers and ranchers supported his efforts. Environmental experts point to widespread burning of the rain forests as a key ingredient in the "Greenhouse" effect, or global warming that results from excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Thomas Belford, an executive from Turner Broadcasting who

visited Rio Branco to present the Turner proposal for a TV movie, said that the locals seemed impressed by the attention that Hollywood was lavishing upon them.

"A lot of fancy names were being thrown around," he said. "But it's not like they are reading the Hollywood reporting."

While they were coming interested in the attention, it appeared that one of their greatest concerns was whether the message (of the film) would be useful to his goals and his life."

So besieged was the Mendes foundation by film makers that in April Schwartz was asked through American environmentalists to gather all the film proposals and make a recommendation. Schwartz, who in the past has worked for such human rights dissidents as Alexander Solzhenitsyn, agreed to take the job on a pro bono basis. By June, he had collected nine offers, and he made his trip to the Brazilian forest.



The Romanesque adventure of the monks

By Pascale Telnac

RIS — La Pierre-qui-Vire, in the heart of Romanesque Burgundy, is an abbey unlike any other. Nearly forty years ago, a community of Benedictine monks (distant descendants of monks who copied or illuminated manuscripts in the Middle Ages) started on an extraordinary venture called "Zodiaque". All lovers of Romanesque art and they are more and more numerous today know the "Zodiaque" publishing label which covers an anthology (unique in the world) of the splendors of Romanesque European architecture, sculpture and painting from the tiniest chapels in land or Italy in the most sumptuous cathedrals in France or England, and including frescoes in Catalonia. But few people know that it is still monks who, with modern techniques of photography, printing, composition, reproduction, and into the gain, the financial difficulties of publishing house.

The Zodiaque adventure began in 1950, when three young monks from the Abbey of La Pierre-qui-Vire (including the present director of Zodiaque, Dom Angelino Surchamp, himself an abstract painter and a student of Albert Ruyter) were asked to paint the scenes for the abbey's chapel then for the refectory.

It was at the period when, after years of war and occupation, the Romanesque basilica of Zelaya, close to La Pierre-qui-Vire, was once more beginning to draw crowds of visitors. It was in the time when religious art and modern art were beginning to be acquainted and when great contemporary artists such as Matisse, Chagall and Cocteau were starting to decorate places of worship.

The three painter-monks took the idea of putting on exhibitions of contemporary religious art in the sumptuous setting of Zelaya. The first reaction of the abbey was mitigated, and in such

an extent that Father Angelino Surchamp thought it useful to give visitors who were shocked by what they saw, the text of a brief "Note on Abstract Art" which he had written for the Abbey's magazine. Strangely enough, this text, which was printed by a friend, became Zodiaque's first pamphlet; the second being devoted to the "Agony of Religious Art". It was only in the third pamphlet, dealing with Antun Cathedral which had just found the Christ's head from its famous spandrel, that Romanesque art, which was going to establish the reputation of the Zodiaque editions, made its appearance.

Then other Romanesque pamphlets followed, on Burgundy, Tournus, Vézelay, etc., printed at the Abbey on equipment bought second-hand in 1950. The monks played a real financial balancing act, at that time, paying for the production of past issues with money from readers' subscriptions for future issues. It was the bookseller in Tournus who had the idea of putting all the pamphlets devoted to these Romanesque Burgundy buildings in a single illustrated and bound volume.

Thus "Bourgogne Romane" was born. It was the first volume of a collection which, today, numbers over 150 titles covering Romanesque or pre-Romanesque art in France (35 volumes), in Spain (10 volumes), Italy (8 volumes), Ireland, Scandinavia, Switzerland, England, Scotland, Portugal and even the Holy Land. Books on Belgium and Germany have been announced. Zodiaque has also published sumptuous books on Saint Benedict, patron of the Benedictines, on monastic Europe, Muslim Europe, the Lombards, Chartres Cathedral and the rock churches of Ethiopia, as well as more general works such as the Glossary of Technical Terms of Romanesque Art and the Lexicon of Symbols and Studies on Romanesque cloisters, crypts, Virgins and Christs.

The printing, which has been considerably modernised, is still carried out at La Pierre-qui-Vire, on offset, whereas the photocopying process to which Zodiaque is very attached, is done at a printer's in the Vosges, one of the rare printing works in France which still uses this process which is far

biggest and best workshops in France. The photographic reproduction, using the photogravure process to which Zodiaque is very attached, is done at a printer's in the Vosges, one of the rare printing works in France which still uses this process which is far

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1,000 bird species threatened

A RECENT decision by the environment ministers of the 12 European Community countries to ban the import of raw and fashioned ivory is undoubtedly good news for the endangered African elephant, but the threat of extinction still looms large over thousands of other species of animals and birds, as rainforests diminish, pollution remains a major problem, and more land is cultivated in an effort to feed an increasingly populous world.

At least 1,000 of the earth's 9,000 species of bird are at risk of disappearing from the skies. For

about half of these the threat is immediate. For some, rescue may already be too late.

The International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) has compiled a list of endangered birds, but resources available for rescue and conservation are thinly spread. The ICBP regards birds as a sensitive indicator of the state of the global environment, enabling the organisation to target priority areas.

Threatened birds are the immediate beneficiaries of the ICBP, but its conservation work extends automatically to plants and other

animal species in a particular habitat.

The global Birdlife conservation programme, which has been working since 1976, has helped to save many bird species. The ICBP is trying to do further conservation work by preserving the habitats of birds. The Philippines, for example, has many other species of birds and fauna will be saved too.

The spectre of extinction is a respecter of national boundaries or of national symbols. Lion feature

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مكتبة الأمل

Jordanian-Syrian committee opens talks in Damascus

DAMASCUS (J.T.) — A joint Jordanian-Syrian committee grouping ministers and senior officials Monday embarked on a two-day meeting here to pave the way for a joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meeting scheduled to start Sunday.

Industry and Trade Minister Ziyad Innab and his Syrian counterpart Anton Juhra are heading the two teams for talks that cover a wide range of subjects including trade, industry, tourism, information and agriculture in addition to joint progress in the work of joint companies in land

and maritime transport, energy and electricity. In its first meeting, the committee reviewed the implementation of resolutions taken by the Higher Committee during its meeting in Amman last February and expressed satisfaction with the progress of work in various fields.

Upon his arrival in Damascus Sunday evening, Innab said that the committee will prepare a comprehensive report on its work and proposed recommendations on future plans to the Higher Committee which is co-chaired by the Syrian and Jordanian prime ministers.

The Higher Committee, which met in Amman in February, decided on a 12-point programme to promote cooperation between the two countries ranging from electricity and trade to agriculture and pharmaceuticals. In their drive to promote bi-

lateral cooperation, the two sides last month signed an executive programme for the implementation of a 1987 agreement on tourism, and agreed to study the prospect of setting up a joint company for investments and hotel management.

Jordan and Syria jointly operate the white cement industry, a pesticide plant and a carpeting industry as well as a land transport company and a free zone area near the common border. The Jordanian side to the current committee talks in Damascus included Ministry of Industry and



Ziyad Innab

Trade Secretary-General Mohammad Saqqaf, Jordan's ambassador to Syria Nayef Al Hadid and Hassan Al Samman from the Central Bank of Jordan.

Gorbachev, Ligachev differ on agricultural strategy

MOSCOW (R) — Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and his agriculture chief Yegor Ligachev differed sharply at the weekend over how to solve growing food shortages — one of the most serious economic problems facing the Soviet Union.

While Gorbachev urged support for private land-leasing to boost output, Ligachev, long-regarded as a standard bearer for conservatism in the ruling Politburo, reiterated his commitment to the state and collective farm system.

"We have now formed a general policy — to give people the

chance to concentrate on private plots," Gorbachev told a Moscow meeting attended by senior Communist Party and government officials and farm experts.

"Now we must put this into practice. He said the full potential of the land could only be achieved through such policies, but accused some rural officials of showing reluctance to adopt new methods.

"They are frightened... by anything that makes them take responsibility," Gorbachev said.

Agricultural problems have reached a point of near crisis, with shortages of staple goods all over the country and widespread rationing.

Much of the problem lies in poor storage and distribution. Soviet experts say up to a third of all produce grown in state farms rot before it reaches the consumer.

The official news agency TASS, reporting both speeches in full, quoted Ligachev as saying he still believed in the collective farm system as the backbone of Soviet agriculture.

"It is no secret that the country is suffering from widespread shortages... some predict famine in a couple of years and say that the only way to avoid it is to go away with the state and collective farms, to hand out the land to the peasants, to denationalise the land and all means of production. But it turns out that the huge majority of peasants don't actually want to take the land and leave the collective and state farms," he said.

The party leadership has sought to pay down differences between Gorbachev and Ligachev, but their previous speeches on agriculture have revealed markedly divergent views.

Panel recommends drastic reflow of funds to developing countries



Helmut Schmidt

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Industrialised nations should drastically increase aid to Third World economies to help them overcome staggering debt burdens, said a report released Monday.

The report also said the United States can play a key role in solving the \$1.3 trillion Third World debt problem by reducing its massive fiscal and current account deficits.

The recommendations were made in a report prepared by former West German chancellor Helmut Schmidt and a group of independent experts formed in 1988 by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

The panel said that in the last five years, developing countries have suffered from a reverse flow of funds, meaning that more capital has left those countries than has come in.

The net flow of investment from industrialised countries to developing countries dropped to \$10 billion in 1986 from \$20 billion in 1982, the report said.

To counter this trend, the report says "sizeable amounts of official development assistance (ODA) are urgently needed" to

start and support the self-sustaining economic growth essential to developing countries' efforts to free themselves from the debt crisis.

The Schmidt plan calls for doubling ODA loans provided by industrialised countries in the next five years. It also suggests study of a "mechanism of automaticity" that would gradually let each donor country's ODA loans increase as a percentage of gross national product.

The Schmidt panel specifically focuses on the plight of the poorest debtor nations, mostly located in sub-Saharan Africa. For these countries, it recommends the establishment by the industrialised nations of a \$1 billion endowment fund that would be administered by the African Development Bank.

The fund would be used to develop national professional, technological and managerial leadership pools.

The group said a recent novel

debt approach by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, which calls for voluntary debt reduction programmes by commercial bank lenders, can probably only succeed in close cooperation with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The Schmidt panel urged the two international lending institutions to set up a new facility funded by voluntary contributions from the industrialised countries.

commercial banks that don't want to reduce debt owed to them and don't want to provide fresh money to developing countries should be asked to accept repayment of part of the interest due to them in local currencies, the report says.

The panel stresses that U.S. budget and trade imbalances should be asked to accept repayment of part of the interest due to them in local currencies, the report says.

The panel stresses that U.S. budget and trade imbalances should be reduced because they keep interest rates high and continue to attract a large part of the world's capital formation, drawing funds from surplus countries like Japan and West Germany that could otherwise have been channeled to developing countries.

It calls on the United States to eliminate its federal budget deficit within four years.

The panel stressed the importance of free trade to the world economy and urged industrialised countries to substantially reduce all non-tariff barriers in the next five years. It called for the elimination of all tariff barriers in 10 years.

The group expressed hope that a normalisation of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union would lead to lower worldwide military expenditures, which could free up funds for "productive purposes."

Recession fears grow as industrial U.S. base weakens

WASHINGTON (R) — After six and a half years of growth, there are ominous signs that the U.S. economy may be slipping into recession.

The latest danger signal was hoisted Friday when Washington announced a 2.5 per cent fall in orders received from American factories.

"If this becomes a continuing long-term trend, we could move into a recession," said economist Jean Sundria of Evans Economics in Washington.

Pessimists fear that the economy, already constrained by tight consumer spending because of the cost of credit, may see basic manufacturing weaken to a point where recession could set in this year.

The stock market expressed its fear of a recession last week in a sell-off that sent the Dow Jones industrial average down sharply in three consecutive sessions — a sign the Federal Reserve (Fed) Board could ill afford to ignore, economists said.

They said the Fed, the U.S. central bank, may react to the weak economic news by easing interest rates slightly after its policy-making board, the Federal Open Market Committee, meets Wednesday and Thursday for the first time since mid-May.

The Fed has kept a tight reign on credit over the past year to fight inflation, which is now running at a yearly rate of 6.7 per cent.

Faced with weak growth, the Fed reversed its policy and eased interest rates slightly last month but it was not enough to prevent

the bearish turn in the stock market.

The selling mood gripped Wall Street after the government Wednesday reported a steep 1.2 per cent drop for May in its key gauge of future economic growth, the index of leading indicators. The weak May factory orders figure was another warning sign.

Some analysts said investors sold stock because they doubt that the Fed will lower interest rates enough to stimulate the economy and future earnings.

But economists believe it may slightly lower the federal funds rate, an overnight lending rate between banks, next week from the current 9.5 per cent to stimulate growth.

Lower interest rates would certainly be welcomed by the Bush administration, which does not want to lose the momentum of six and a half years of economic expansion.

The Fed has been navigating the economy between the twin dangers of inflation on one side and recession on the other. The aim is to achieve slow growth and modest inflation, what is known as a soft landing.

"They'll be walking a fine line and try to keep the economy going, and now it would appear they are less concerned about inflation than they are about growth," said economist Kathryn Kober of the Washington forecasting firm Joel Popkin and Co.

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World Bank lending hits new record

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank, pledging a new commitment to the developing world, said Sunday that total loans approved for the year ended June 30 were a record \$21.4 billion compared with \$19.2 billion for the prior year.

In a briefing for reporters, officials said they anticipated that lending would increase an additional \$1.75 billion in the current fiscal year.

Noting that content of bank activity was more important than the amount of money that is lent, bank officials said that "growth alone does not necessarily reduce poverty."

The officials said the bank is in the midst of a major expansion of programmes that will invest directly in what it called human capital — in education, health, nutrition, and in efforts to

address issues of population planning and the enhancement of the role of women.

Bank officials said that total bank loans in the year just completed amounted to \$16.4 billion compared with \$14.7 billion in the prior fiscal year.

Total credits approved under the International Development Association (IDA), which makes money available on essentially an interest-free basis to the very poorest countries, were \$4.9 billion compared with \$4.5 billion.

Bank funds actually disbursed in the year just ended amounted to \$11.6 billion, identical with last year, while IDA disbursements

amounted to \$3.8 billion from \$3.4 billion.

Bank senior vice president for operations Moeen Qureshi, speaking with reporters, also said that bank loans to the highly indebted countries amounted to 48 per cent of total loans in the year just ended compared with 43 per cent in the prior year.

He estimated that a similar percentage commitment would be made this year.

He said the bank goes into the final decade of this century in strong shape.

"There is a new momentum to our operational work today," he said.

Manila wants more aid

TOKYO (AP) — An international conference aimed at solidifying aid to the Philippines opened Monday with a plea from the Manila government for continued help "to provide a better life for our people" and to strengthen democracy.

Philippine Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme told delegates from 18 other countries and seven international organisations that President Corason Aquino's administration is implementing wide economic and social reforms.

When the conference ends Wednesday, pledges of up to \$10 billion in aid over five years are to be made in what is being called a "Marshall Plan" to strengthen Mrs. Aquino's three-year-old

government. Jayme said the Philippine economy has been growing at six per cent annually for two years, and the government is improving its management of development projects and foreign debt, currently a heavy \$28 billion.

"It is our hope and expectation that the donor community will respond in good measure to the challenge of assisting in our efforts to provide a better life for our people in the years ahead, and allow the Philippines to strengthen its democratic way of life and preserve our freedoms," Jayme said.

A Japanese foreign ministry official, briefing reporters on condition of anonymity, said Japan agreed with an assessment given

to the conference by the Asian Development Bank that the Philippines has made tremendous efforts but many problems remained.

Jayme said in his speech that 49 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line — an improvement from 59 per cent in 1985.

Toyota considers building car engine plant in Britain

TOKYO (AP) — Toyota Motor Corp., Japan's largest car maker, is considering building a car engine plant in Britain, where it already plans to construct a \$1.2 billion auto plant.

"The feasibility study is nearing its final stage," focusing on selecting a site for a new engine plant in Britain, said a Toyota official who spoke anonymously.

The Nihon Keizai Shimbun, the nation's top economic newspaper, has said the new 30-billion-yen (\$205 million) plant would probably be located in northern Wales. It said Toyota was negotiating terms for a contract and would decide by early July on the location for the project.

Toyota announced earlier this year that it will build the com-

pany's first passenger car plant in Europe, located in the northern England town of Burnaston, to begin operation in 1992. The new assembly plant will eventually produce 200,000 subcompact cars a year and hire about 3,000 people.

Toyota officials have said the local content ratio at the new plant is expected to be 80 per cent.

Toyota also said it has recently received permission from the Pakistan government for a joint venture project to produce passenger cars in that Asian country, the official said.

The official said his company would carry out a feasibility study on launching a car-manufacturing project with the Habib Group, a major Pakistani business concern.

Britons, Saudis to make car batteries

RIYADH (R) — Chloride Group PLC of Britain is forming a joint venture with Saudi Arabia's National Industrialisation Company (NIC) to build a car battery plant, a NIC spokesman has said. Rayes Al Rayes said the \$2 million (y) (\$13.9 million) plant was scheduled to produce 500,000 car batteries annually, a quarter of the kingdom's needs. Other types of batteries may be produced later. The U.K. firm will hold a 30 per cent share and NIC 70 per cent. No contract has yet been awarded to build the plant for the joint venture, to be known as the National Battery Manufacturing Company. The plant should be on-line by the middle of 1991, Rayes said.

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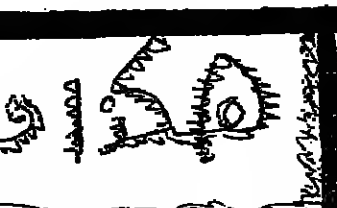
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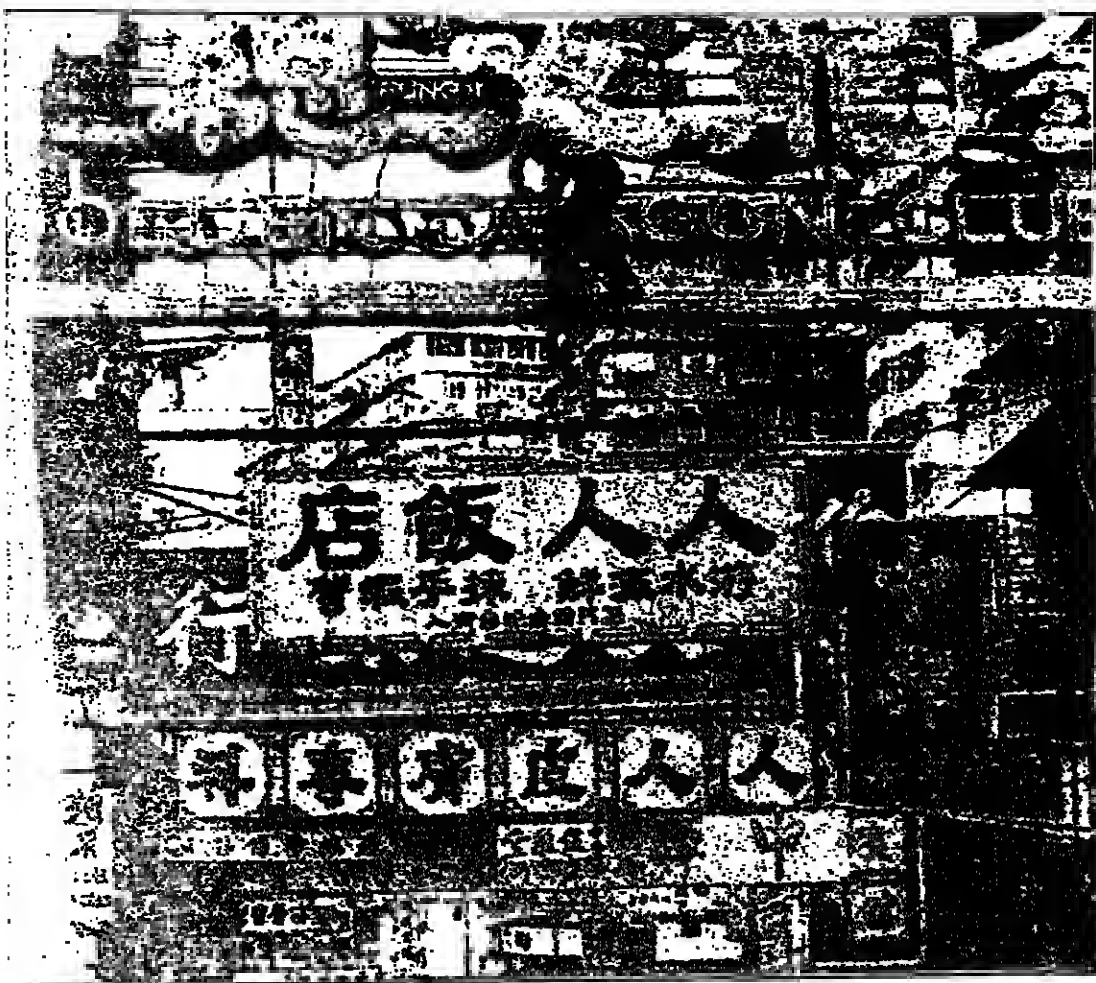
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THERE'S A LOT OF 'EM ABOUT, DEAR.



Quelling Hong Kong, whose citizens expected a message of hope from Sir Geoffrey Howe

Howe rules out refuge for Hong Kong people

HONG KONG (AP) — British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe Monday rejected appeals from Hong Kong residents that Britain offer them refuge from China when the colony is turned over to the communist nation in 1997.

Howe also denied that the decision was racial.

As Howe concluded the luncheon speech in which he outlined Britain's position, protesters unfurled a banner inside the hall that read, "Shame on the Thatcher government."

"This... speech is insulting the intelligence of Hong Kong Chinese. We protest and we walk out," shouted Lee Wing Tat, an elected local community leader who left the hall with about eight other demonstrators.

Such angry public outbursts are extremely rare in this British colony, and demonstrated the degree of bitterness many of Hong Kong's 5.7 million people feel over London's refusal to grant them the right to live in Britain.

Hong Kong residents have demanded the right since June 3-4

when China brutally suppressed the pro-democracy movement in Peking and launched a crackdown against dissent.

Although more than three million Hong Kong Chinese are eligible for British passports, they are not allowed to live in Britain. Howe made clear that the policy will not change fundamentally.

"The plain fact is that there is simply no way that the British government could grant to several million people the right to come and live in Britain," Howe told about 250 community leaders.

"It dismays me that some have suggested that this is a matter of race. It is nothing of the sort," Howe said. "It is a practical problem on an enormous scale" that would test Britain's capacity in housing, employment and transportation, he said.

Howe indicated that some Hong Kong Chinese who have provided valuable service to the colony would be allowed to settle in Britain, but he provided no details.

He also said Britain would open its doors to Hong Kong residents and mobilise the international community to do the same "if things did go catastrophically wrong" in the territory.

Britain also is considering speeding up a local democratic reform programme and drafting a bill of rights for the colony to help safeguard the future of Hong Kong residents.

Howe expressed concern about a clause in the constitution for post-1997 Hong Kong, being drafted by China, that could allow Peking authorities to declare a state of emergency in the territory.

Howe is in Hong Kong on a three-day fact-finding mission to gauge opinion in the colony after the Chinese army gunned down unarmed pro-democracy demonstrators around Peking's Tiananmen Square.

While expressing disgust over the crackdown, Howe said the 1984 British-Chinese agreement that returns Hong Kong to China in 1997 remains valid.

Indians launch offensive against Tamil rebels

COLOMBO (AP) — Indian peacekeeping troops in Sri Lanka have launched a major sweep against Tamil rebels operation on the island's north and east, military officials said Monday.

The officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said a dusk-to-dawn to curfew had been imposed in many towns in the area since Saturday but added that other details were not immediately available.

A spokeswoman at the Indian high commission, or embassy, did not deny that the offensive was under way but said she did not have details.

Indian newspapers said the offensive, code-named "Operation Toofan," was launched 10 days ago and involved thousands of troops backed by helicopter gunships. Toofan means storm in the Hindi language.

Last week, President Ranasinghe Premadasa asked India to cease operations against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the main rebel militia. The Indian government refused, saying a decision could only be taken after the Tigers surrendered arms and refrained from violence.

Premadasa's appeal followed an agreement between his government and the Tigers to stop fighting each other. The two sides have been holding talks since May, their first direct contact since the rebels launched a war for an independent Tamil homeland in 1983.

India became involved in the Tamil war because of the sympathies of its own 60 million Tamils for the rebel cause. The peacekeeping soldiers were deployed in July 1987, initially to supervise an arms surrender by the rebels after a peace accord gave Tamils limited autonomy.

But the Tigers reneged on the accord that fall and began attacking the Indian soldiers.

The New Delhi government has also refused Premadasa's request to withdraw its troops by the end of July.

Tamils form 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people and claim they are discriminated against by the majority Sinhalese, who make up 75 per cent of the population and control the government and the military.



Polish riot police clash with about 50 protesters who tried to march on the Communist Party's central committee building in Warsaw, calling for party leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski to resign.

Solidarity proposes forming government

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity publicly proposed Monday that it should form a government in exchange for backing a Communist Party candidate in this week's Polish presidential elections.

The free trade union's official newspaper said Poland needed a new political arrangement that could be supported by all political forces while guaranteeing continuity.

"Such a set-up would be an agreement under which the president will be a candidate of the PZPR (Communist Party) and the premier's portfolio and mission of forming a government would be given to a candidate of Solidarity," the newspaper said in a front-page article.

Political sources said at the weekend some leaders of the Communist-dominated governing coalition had already raised the possibility of a Solidarity leader becoming prime minister.

They suggested Professor Bronislaw Geremek, 57, Solidarity's leading political strategist, for the post.

The article in Gazeta Wyborcza (Election Gazette) was signed by its editor Adam Michnik, a veteran dissident and Solidarity adviser who was elected to parliament when the union won a landslide victory in partly-free elections last month.

Michnik and Jacek Kuron, another senior Solidarity adviser

and parliamentary deputy, proposed the idea of a Solidarity government in exchange for a Communist president at a meeting of the union's 260 legislators Saturday.

"Such a (Communist) president would guarantee continuity of the authorities and of international accords and military alliances," Michnik wrote.

"Such a (Solidarity) government would have a mandate from the huge majority of Poles and would guarantee a subsequent change of the economic and political system."

"This would be an arrangement credible for Poland and the world," he added.

The presidential election was thrown open Friday when Communist leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski stepped aside and proposed Interior Minister General Czeslaw Kiszczak instead.

Jaruzelski said he could not overcome the stigma of having imposed martial law in 1981.

Political sources said he was unable to gather a majority in the 560-member National Assembly, comprising both houses of parliament, which elects the president.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa has said Jaruzelski is unacceptable to the nation. He threw his weight behind Kiszczak as a trustworthy partner who negotiated a political reform pact with Solidarity in April.

But the Communist Party has not endorsed Kiszczak and has asked Jaruzelski to reconsider. The Peasant and Democratic parties allied to the Communists have delayed making a choice.

With the Communists and their allies divided, Solidarity's 260 legislators appear to have the decisive votes in the electoral assembly.

Michnik said the issue could not be reduced to a competition between the virtues of the two generals.

"Poland needs now a strong and credible system of power. A change of appearances is not enough, like for example replacing one candidate for president by another ..."

"The question is not about people but about mechanisms. What we need is a new arrangement that can be approved by all the main political forces, new but guaranteeing continuity."

Solidarity has previously said it will not join the government as a junior partner to the communists and is not ready to form its own government.

However, political sources said it now appeared to be aiming for control of a "government of experts" — non-partisan technocrats who would hold Poland out of deepening economic and political crisis.

Aquino firm on Marcos

MANILA (R) — Deposed Philippine leader Ferdinand Marcos will not be allowed back to his homeland dead or alive, President Corason Aquino said Monday.

Aquino said she was opposed to the return of Marcos, 71, because of the potential trouble his supporters could cause. The former president is near death in a Honolulu hospital.

Aquino said in an interview with Reuters and the International television news agency Visnews that she was confident security was good enough for her to leave the country Saturday for Europe.

"I would not leave if I thought the country was in a precarious state," said Aquino, 56, who has

survived five coup attempts since Marcos was overthrown in a popular revolt in 1986.

I am confident that even with my leaving the country and staying away for a week that we have enough safeguards to ensure that this government will continue and that the government will be able to address any situation where the stability of this government would be endangered," she stated during the 40-minute interview at Manila's Malacanang Palace.

Aquino will be pressing for extra financial assistance and relief on the country's \$28 billion debt during her July 9-15 visit to West Germany, France and Belgium.

She said rebels within the military had been rooted out and no longer had troops under their command since the bloody August 1987 coup attempt when at least 53 people were killed.

"The undesirable elements have been weeded out and the good elements of the military are in place and are able to perform their functions according to the dictates of our constitution," Aquino stated.

Asked if she was opposed to the return of Marcos even when he died, the president said: "Yes, I am because I believe that at this time it is not in the national interest to allow Mr. Marcos to come back."

'Tourism' prompted Cuban general to traffick drugs

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A former major general in the Cuban military testified at his court-martial that he trafficked drugs because he wanted to invest in tourism projects like hotels, the Cuban news agency said Sunday.

Arnoldo Ochoa Sanchez is one of 15 high-ranking military officers charged with high treason and trafficking in cocaine, diamonds and ivory.

They were stripped of their rank and expelled from the Communist Party last week. Three major generals began hearing the case Friday. The 15 could face the firing squad if convicted.

In a related development, Foreign Ministry spokesman Hector Argiles said that Reuters correspondent Gilles Trequesser was expelled Sunday for "falsely and maliciously" reporting that two Communist Party officials wanted asylum in a foreign embassy.

Argiles was quoted by the

Cuban government news agency Prensa Latina as saying that Trequesser filed the offending article Saturday and was expelled at 8 a.m. (1200 GMT) Sunday. He said Trequesser is the third Reuters correspondent expelled, but gave no details.

"It is Cuba's policy to take such measures against correspondents accredited in the country when they falsify the truth with evident malicious intention," Argiles said.

Prensa Latina said Trequesser reported that Osmani Cienfuegos, a member of the Council of State and of the ruling Communist Party's Political Bureau, and Abraham Maciques, president of the state trading corporation Cubanacan, had asked for asylum at an unnamed foreign embassy.

Argiles said Trequesser "falsely and maliciously" linked "the alleged search for asylum" with the drug case.

According to Prensa Latina Ochoa and two aides, Jorge Martinez and Antonio Rodriguez, admitted their actions "seriously endangered the prestige, morality and dignity of Cuba, its armed forces, people and government."

Earlier dispatches from Havana said the defendants belonged to a secret division of the Interior Ministry that smuggled medicine, hospital supplies and computers to circumvent a U.S. trade embargo. One of the defendants is former Interior Minister Jose Abrantes.

Ochoa said Sunday that he was "thinking big" when he decided to become involved in international drug trafficking in 1987, Prensa Latina said.

He said he planned to invest large amounts of money in hotel construction but did not intend to turn the island into a drug trafficking centre.

COLUMN

Snakes kill lion, wolves at zoo

NEW DELHI (R) — Snakes have killed a lion and two wolves at a zoo in the north Indian city of Kanpur, the United News of India reported Monday. It said the animals had been found dead of snake bites in their enclosures at the zoo, set in 75 acres of woodland. Forest guards had saved a leopard by chasing away a snake preparing to attack. The agency did not identify the type of snakes responsible.

Longer life in Vietnam

BANGKOK (AP) — Want to live long? Then go live in Vietnam, where 2,432 people are 100 or older and the oldest is a 142-year-old woman, according to the Vietnam News Agency. Chances of living long are much higher for women than men. Female centenarians outnumber males 1,728 to 704, the official agency said in a report monitored Monday in Bangkok. While the Guinness Book of world records lists the oldest documented person as having lived to 120, the central census guidance board says Vietnam's most senior citizen is Ngan Thi Quang, 142 — a member of an ethnic Thai minority group living in the central part of the country. The oldest man, a full twelve years behind her at 130 was identified as Hoang A-Giang, a member of the Hmong ethnic minority living in the northern province of Hoang Lien Son, the report said.

'Chickpeas can fight cholesterol'

TEL AVIV (R) — Health officials in Tel Aviv have urged Israelis to eat more hummus, a chickpea paste popular in the Middle East, to decrease the risk of heart attack. A municipality statement said hummus and olive oil — usually eaten together — lowered the likelihood of heart attacks caused by foods high in cholesterol content. It said tests given to 2,000 residents showed one in four faced a high risk of heart attack because of cholesterol.

Batman 'too busy'

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Adam West, the batman of television fame years ago, says he has been too busy to see the new Batman movie and that he is content to leave the crime fighting to Michael Keaton's new version of the fictional character. "I guess if anyone should see it, I should," he said Tuesday while in town for a return of his 1966 Batman movie. "I've been too busy. But I'm very curious." West, speaking in the same measured tones Batman used while facing urban menaces, said he would have liked to star in the new movie. "But I would not have been well casted," he said. "They have a different vision. People would expect the same thing Batman was before — light-hearted." When the television show first left the air in 1968, West found himself hopelessly typecast.

Lightning panic kills 1,600 chickens

BELGRADE (R) — More than 1,600 panic-stricken chickens suffocated after a bolt of lightning caused a total electricity failure at a Yugoslav farm. Terrified by the flash in the sky and the sudden darkness, the farm's stock of 10,000 chickens tried to flee into one corner of their enclosure. More than 1,600 suffocated, costing the farm at least 30 million dinars (\$5,000), Tanjug news agency said Monday.

Global weather

(major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	WIND
AMSTERDAM	12	54	22 Cloud
ATHENS	21	70	24 Partly
BAHRAIN	29	84	27 Partly
BANGKOK	27	81	35 Partly
BELGRADE	22	58	10 Partly
CAIRO	21	70	38 Partly
CHICAGO	13	55	31 Partly
COPENHAGEN	10	50	21 Partly
FRANKFURT	11	52	18 Partly
GENEVA	10	50	24 Partly
HONG KONG	28	82	30 Partly
ISTANBUL	21	70	30 Partly
LONDON	12	54	24 Partly
LOS ANGELES	17	63	27 Partly
MADRID	16	61	35 Partly
MEXICO	27	81	44 Partly
MONTREAL	18	61	28 Partly
MOSCOW	16	61	22 Partly
NEW DELHI	28	80	37 Partly
NEW YORK	17	63	30 Partly
PARIS	15	59	21 Partly
ROME	18	62	24 Partly
SYDNEY	11	52	21 Partly
TOKYO	15	68	14 Partly
VIENNA	16	61	24 Partly

Marxists detained in Bangladesh

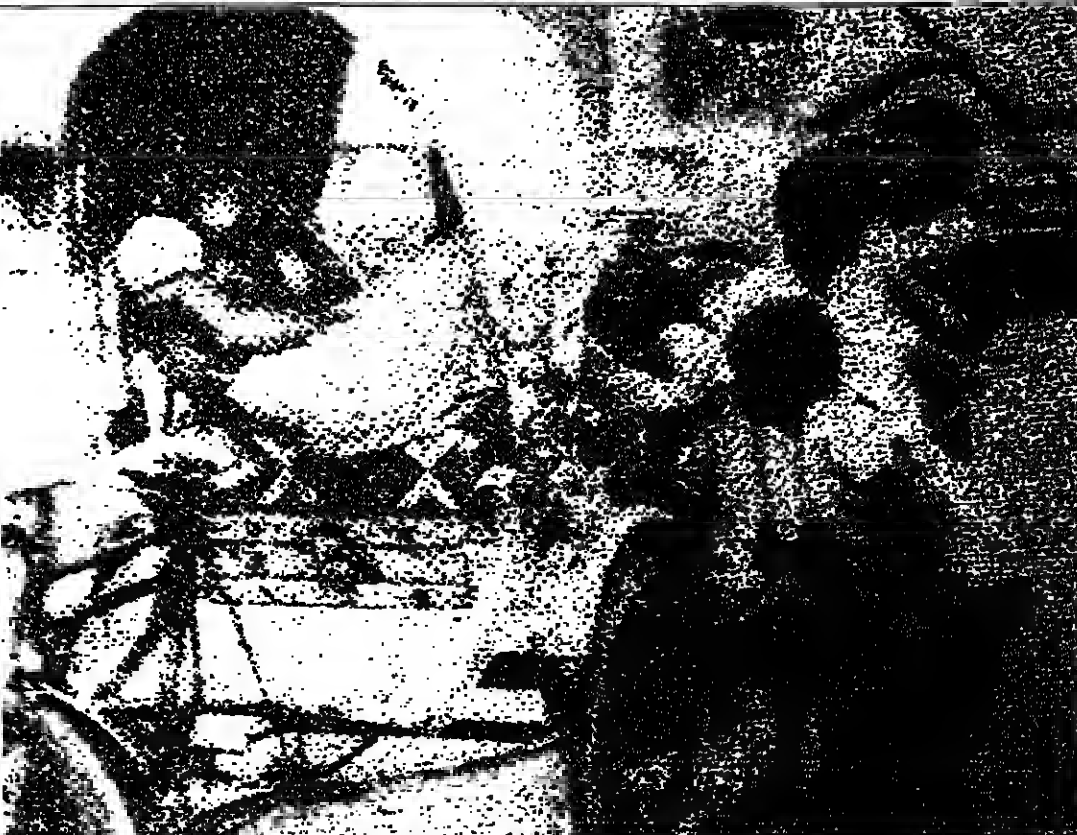
DHAKA (AP) — Police have arrested 168 suspected Marxist activists in a special drive against political violence, official sources said Monday.

The Interior Ministry sources said the detainees belong to the outlawed East Bengal Sharbahara Party, or East Bengal Proletariat Party. The sources spoke on condition of anonymity.

They said the arrests were made last month in the districts of Rajshahi in the north, Khulna in the southwest and Dhaka.

The Sharbahara Party, which advocates armed struggle to capture state power, is responsible for at least 100 political killings this year, the sources said.

They said police also arrested 143 non-Marxists during the sweep on charges of various kinds of violence, including use of homemade bombs for political purposes. The sources refused to give details.



Children attack a rickshawpuller resting on his vehicle in an empty Dhaka street during a strike, which was called by opposition parties to protest heavy taxes levied in the recently introduced fiscal 1989-90 Bangladesh national budget.